

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12 and 15-19 were pending in this application.

Claims 1, 6, 7 and 16-19 were rejected.

Claims 8, 9, 12 and 15 were allowed.

Claims 2 and 3 were objected to.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 13, 14 and 18 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 16, 17 and 19 are amended.

I. Claim Objection

The Examiner has objected to a grammatical error in Claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended in view of the Examiner's comments. The stated cause of rejection has been removed. Claim 1 is now believed to stand in condition for allowance.

II. Allowable Matter

Claims 8, 9, 12 and 15 were allowed.

The Examiner has indicated that the matter of Claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Claim 2 depends from Claim 1. The matter of Claim 2 has been added to Claim 1 by amendment. Claim 2 has been deleted. Claim 1, as amended, now represents the matter of Claim 2 rewritten into independent form.

In view of the Examiner's comments, Claim 1 is believed to be distinguishable over the cited prior art and stands in condition for allowance.

III. 35 USC 103 Rejections

Claims 16-19 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,568,300 to Rasmussen.

The matter of Claim 18 has been added to Claim 16 by amendment. Claim 18 has been subsequently deleted.

Claim 16, as amended, now claims a remote controlled vehicle system having a master

model vehicle and a plurality of slave model vehicles.

A linkage element is provided that has a first end and an opposite second end. The linkage element is pivotably connected to the master model vehicle **at a middle point between its first end and second end**. The slave model vehicles are coupled to the master model vehicle and to each other by the linkage element. At least one of the slave model vehicles is connected to the first end of the linkage element. Similarly, at least one of the plurality of slave models is connected to the second end of the linkage element. **The master model vehicle is therefore position between at least two slave model vehicles**. All of the slave models are propelled by the master model vehicle in pathways outside that of the master model vehicle.

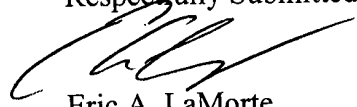
The Rasmussen patent discloses one mater vehicle and one slave vehicle that are joined together at opposite ends of a linkage. The Rasmussen patent makes no disclosure concerning a linkage element with slave vehicles attached to opposite ends of the linkage element and having a master vehicle in the center of the linkage element.

Since the cited prior art reference does not disclose the configuration being claimed, it is clear that the Rasmussen patent fails to suggest the matter of Claim 16. It is therefore requested that the 35 USC 104 rejection be withdrawn as applied to Claim 16 and its dependent claims.

IV. SUMMARY

Having fully distinguished the pending claims over the cited art, this application is believed to stand in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is requested to call the applicant's attorney at (215) 321-6772 in order that any outstanding issues may be resolved without the necessity of issuing a further Office Action.

Respectfully Submitted,



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